CHAPTER III.

GROSS YIELD AND OUTTURN OF FOREST-PRODUCE.

DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS.

73. Timber and firewood was worked during the year as follows :—

No.	Division.	Year.	In Cubic feet.	
			Timber.	Firewood.
1	East Thána	1893-94	3,351	1,106
		1894-95	1,035	450
2	West Thána	1893-94	2,423	9,255
		1894-95	686	.....
3	Surát	1893-94	62,523	.....
		1894-95	37,629	2,796
4	Panch Maháls	1893-94	3,710	11,375
		1894-95	80,610	2'06,525
	Total ...	1893-94	72,007	21,736
		1894-95	1,19,960	2,09,771

74. In the Thána division it was not found necessary to undertake any departmental exploitation of coupes and the figures given represent the reserves of old coupes which having been blown down had to be removed and in a few cases material not removed in time by the contractor.

75. In Surat, following on the completion of settlement in Mándvi, extensive clearing of lines had to be made.

76. In the Panch Mahálś the increased figures represent the outturn of certain fellings made to provide material required by the local population and the extensive clearing of boundary lines.

77. The following is an abstract, &c., of the details given in Form No. 59 :—

No.	Division.	Balance on 1st July 1894.			Outturn of the year.			Totals of columns 5 and 8.	Disposed of during the year.			Balance on 30th June 1895.		
		Timber.	Fire-wood.	Total	Timber.	Fire-wood	Total.		Timber.	Fire-wood.	Total.	Timber.	Fire-wood.	Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
		C. ft.	C. ft.	C. ft.	C. ft.	C. ft.	C. ft.	C. ft.	C. ft.	C. ft.	C. ft.	C. ft.	C. ft.	C. ft.
1	East Thána ...	72	...	72	1,035	450	1,485	1,557	645	450	1,095	462	...	462
2	West Thána ...	1,925	100	2,025	684	...	684	2,709	1,160	100	1,260	1,449	...	1,449
3	Surat	21,883	...	21,883	37,629	2,796	40,425	62,308	54,566	2,796	57,362	4,946	...	4,946
4	Panch Mahals ...	786	5,355	6,141	80,610	2,06,525	2,87,135	2,93,276	77,961	1,85,690	2,63,651	3,435	26,190	29,625
	Total ...	24,666	5,455	30,121	1,19,958	2,09,771	3,29,729	3,59,850	1,34,332	1,89,036	3,23,368	10,292	26,190	36,482

The large balance in stock in the Wágrech Depôt in Surat at the commencement of the year (noticed in para. 96 of last year's report) was sold off during the year.

REMOVAL OF PRODUCE BY PURCHASERS.

78. The exploitation of major produce by contractors under the Thána working scheme compared with that of 1893-94 was as under :—

No.	Division.	Coupes exploited.							
		1893-94.				1894-95.			
		Number.	Area.	Receipts.	Average price per Acre.	Number.	Area.	Receipts.	Average price per Acre.
				Rs.				R s.	
1	East Thána ...	146	8,029½	1,89,316	23·6	134	7,355¾	1,93,097	26·1
2	West Thána ...	124	6,450	2,69,238	41·8	121	6,501	3,19,647	49·169
	Total ...	270	14,479½	4,58,554	31·7	255	13,856¾	5,12,744	37·

79. In East Thána 143 coupes were laid out for sale, of which 15 remained unsold owing to there being no demand for them on account of their inaccessibility. On the other hand 6 coupes which remained unsold in past years found purchasers. Similarly in West Thána 10 coupes of the 130 marked out found no purchasers, while one old one was disposed of. The total area worked, though somewhat less than last year, was not far from the average. The fact that the rate per acre obtained increased in both divisions shows that the demand continues unabated ; this, as I have remarked elsewhere, is rather astonishing in face of the increased competition by native states and holders of alienated land.

80. The exploitation by contractors continues on the whole to be well done. One contract, however, in East Thána had to be cancelled owing to the contractor deliberately felling reserved trees and cutting beyond his boundary, and in another case 8 men were prosecuted criminally and fined a sum amounting in all to Rs. 749. No serious case of similar breaches of conduct was reported from West Thána.

81. The gross produce yield of the coupes worked is estimated by the Divisional Forest Officers as follows :—

No.	Division.	Timber in Cubic feet.		Firewood, including Charcoal, in Cubic feet.
		Teak.	Jungle-wood.	
1	East Thána	1,255,033	592,348	1,911,108
2	West Thána	1,393,944	498,765	2,627,158
	Total, 1894-95 ...	2,648,977	1,091,113	4,538,266
	Total, 1893-94 ...	2,211,029	1,020,452	3,869,085

82. To this must be added the small branchage and dead wood which under concession of Government are removed by the villagers, &c., the volume of which it is simply impossible to estimate.

83. The timber and firewood removed by purchasers in Surat was as follows:—

Year.	Timber.	Firewood.
	Cubic ft.	Cubic ft.
1893-94	71,634	14,822
1894-95	47,755	19,384

84. In the Panch Mahâls the year's working compares with that of last year as follows:—

Year.	Timber.	Firewood.
	Cubic ft.	Cubic ft.
1893-94	195,245	415,696
1894-95	130,671	141,828

As in past years this material is from Government land outside forest limits.

Bamboos.

85. The yield of bamboos is given in the following table:—

No.	Division.	Bamboos removed, 1893-94.				Bamboos removed, 1894-95.			
		Cart-loads.	Head-loads.	Number.	Amount realized.	Cart-loads.	Head-loads.	Number.	Amount realized.
					Rs.				Rs.
1	East Thâna	40	7	228,890	815	380	686	8,622	568
2	West Thâna ...	7,166	2,451	*2,332,393	18,127	5,456	3,229	1,429,818	19,028
3	Surat	...	...	901,558	25,474	...	...	351,451	9,116
4	Panch Mahâls ...	135	...	117,051	1,484	98	...	123,269	1,753
	Total ...	7,341	2,458	3,579,892	45,900	5,834	3,915	1,913,160	30,465

*This included a large number of "Bundhis" or small bamboo.

86. It has been found necessary to reduce the number of bamboos exploited in the Dângs. The permit-holders do so much damage in cutting out the mature culms and our establishment is too weak to admit of proper supervision, so there has been no alternative except to limit the exploitation.

Major Produce.

87. The following comparative statement gives the yield of minor produce for the year 1894-95:—

Number.	Division.	1893-94.	1894-95.
1	East Thâna	2,747	2,828
2	West Thâna	2,436	2,857
3	Surat	2,162	2,223
4	Panch Mahâls	583	1,142
	Total ...	7,928	9,050

FREE-GRANTS OF FOREST PRODUCE.

88. The following is a statement showing the free grants of timber, &c., made under the authority of the Commissioner during the year as compared with those of last year:—

No.	Division.	1893-94.	1894-95.
		Rs.	Rs.
1	East Thána	1,618	666
2	West Thána	30	80
3	Surat	473	361
4	Panch Maháls	836	2,346
	Total ...	2,957	3,453

89. The large grant last year in East Thána was explained in paragraph 108 of the administration report as due to a large fire in the village of Dughád. In the same way the high figure this year for the Panch Maháls is due to a large fire in the village of Chaláli in the Kálol Táluka.

CHAPTER IV.

FINANCIAL RESULTS.

90. The financial results of the year under report as compared with last year are as follows :—

	Receipts.	Expenditure.		Total.	Surplus.
		A.	B.		
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1893-94	7,60,954	98,047	1,66,900	2,64,947	4,96,007
1894-95	7,38,680	96,961	1,78,971	2,75,931	4,62,749
Increase ...	...	...	12,071	10,784	...
Decrease ...	22,274	1,086	...	...	33,258

91. Last year's receipts were inflated by the sale of certain shared forests in the Panch Maháls for Rs. 35,000 and this year B.—Expenditure includes a sum of Rs. 3,247 paid to officers of other provinces but debited to this Circle by the Accountant General. Under these circumstances a decrease of no more than Rs. 33,258 in the surplus is satisfactory.

92. The following statement gives the detail by main heads of receipts in the several divisions of the Circle :—

Division.	Receipts.										Total Receipts.
	I.		II.		III.		IV.		V.		
	Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.		Rs. a. p.
East Thána, 1893-94 ...	470 12 0		2,03,797 13 2		2,037 15 2		1,693 5 1		5,013 0 9		2,13,012 14 2
Do. 1894-95 ...	110 9 3		2,05,295 15 7		884 8 10		3,290 5 10		6,973 6 0		2,16,554 13 6
West Thána, 1893-93 ...	1,191 12 0		3,13,893 15 9		349 7 7		13 1 6		10,967 2 0		3,26,416 0 10
Do. 1894-95 ...	791 13 9		3,66,153 11 0		586 2 7		114 3 1		6,133 12 8		3,73,779 11 1
Surat, 1893-94 ...	24,361 14 4		79,360 11 3		619 4 9		1 13 4		1,204 8 2		1,05,548 3 10
Do. 1894-95 ...	36,285 15 1		29,601 11 7		455 15 2		5 1 9		851 1 1		67,199 12 8
Panch Maháls, 1893-94 ...	578 0 9		78,937 3 8		82 4 9		35,001 12 0		1,325 0 5		1,15,924 5 7
Do. 1894-95 ...	12,307 4 9		66,862 12 10		108 7 3		6 0 0		1,360 10 1		80,645 2 11
Working-Plans, 1893-94 ...	.....		.....		.....		.....		0 7 0		0 7 0
Do. 1894-95 ...	.....		.....		.....		.....		14 6 0		14 6 0
Direction, 1893-94 ...	.....		.....		.....		.....		51 14 0		51 14 0
Do. 1894-95 ...	.....		.....		.....		.....		4 11 8		4 11 8
Total, 1893-94 ...	26,602 7 1		6,75,989 11 10		3,089 0 3		36,709 15 11		18,562 10 4		7,60,953 13 5
Total, 1894-95 ...	49,495 10 10		6,67,914 3 0		2,035 1 10		3,415 10 8		15,818 14 4		7,38,679 8 8